

What is claimed is:

1. A piezoelectric ceramic composition comprising $\text{Pb}(\text{Ni}_{1/3}\text{Nb}_{2/3})\text{O}_3$, PbTiO_3 , and PbZrO_3 , wherein:

a composition of $\text{Pb}(\text{Ni}_{1/3}\text{Nb}_{2/3})\text{O}_3$, PbTiO_3 , and PbZrO_3 exists in an area in a triangular coordinate system defined by apexes of $\text{Pb}(\text{Ni}_{1/3}\text{Nb}_{2/3})\text{O}_3$, PbTiO_3 , and PbZrO_3 , the area being surrounded by lines for connecting a point A ($X = 40$, $Y = 37$, $Z = 23$), a point B ($X = 36$, $Y = 37$, $Z = 27$), a point C ($X = 33$, $Y = 40$, $Z = 27$), and a point D ($X = 37$, $Y = 40$, $Z = 23$), when $\text{Pb}(\text{Ni}_{1/3}\text{Nb}_{2/3})\text{O}_3$ amounts to X molar %, PbTiO_3 amounts to Y molar %, and PbZrO_3 amounts to Z molar % ($X + Y + Z = 100$).

2. The piezoelectric ceramic composition according to claim 1, wherein the piezoelectric ceramic composition consists of $\text{Pb}(\text{Ni}_{1/3}\text{Nb}_{2/3})\text{O}_3$, PbTiO_3 , and PbZrO_3 .

3. The piezoelectric ceramic composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition of $\text{Pb}(\text{Ni}_{1/3}\text{Nb}_{2/3})\text{O}_3$, PbTiO_3 , and PbZrO_3 exists in an area surrounded by lines for connecting a point E ($X = 38$, $Y = 38$, $Z = 24$), a point F ($X = 36$, $Y = 38$, $Z = 26$), a point G ($X = 35$, $Y = 39$, $Z = 26$), and a point H ($X = 37$, $Y = 39$, $Z = 24$).

4. The piezoelectric ceramic composition according

to claim 1, wherein a piezoelectric displacement d_{33} , which is obtained when a DC electric field of 1 kV/mm is applied in the same direction as that of a polarization axis of the piezoelectric ceramic composition, is not less than 750 pm/V.

5. The piezoelectric ceramic composition according to claim 1, wherein a relative dielectric constant at 1 kHz is within a range of 3550 to 1700.

6. The piezoelectric ceramic composition according to claim 1, further containing La in a ratio of 0.3 to 0.5 % by weight as calculated by conversion into an oxide represented by La_2O_3 .

7. A piezoelectric actuator which is formed of the piezoelectric ceramic composition as defined in claim 1.

8. An ink-jet head comprising the piezoelectric actuator as defined in claim 5 and a cavity plate.